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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/777,905	02/12/2004	Wanrong Lin	9432-000267	6086

27572	7590	06/08/2005		

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. BOX 828
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48303

EXAMINER
BANANKHAH, MAJID A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2195	

DATE MAILED: 06/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *12 February 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
   closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-21* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-21* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
        application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>02/12/04</u>.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This office action is in response to application filed on February 12, 2004. Claims 1-21

are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or
> described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject
> matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole
> would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary
> skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived
> by the manner in which the invention was made.

3.   Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tang et el.

(ConNexus Awarenex: Extending awareness to mobile users, by John C. Tang, et al. March 4,

2001) in view of Manabe et al. (US Pat. No. 6,584,494, hereafter Manabe).

As to claim 1, Tang taught the system as claimed including a system for automated

availability information (see Tang, pages 221-228), comprising:

dissemination of presence and a schedule publication element configured to acquire schedule

information associated with at least one user (Tang, page 222, L. col., under The ConNexus User

Interface Design, awareness cues...); a schedule management element configured to receive

schedule information from said schedule publication element (Tang, page 222, L. col., contact

list);

a schedule distribution element receptive of said integrated schedule information from said schedule said schedule management element and being responsive to subscribing element to maintain a data store identifying those subscribers to receive notifications regarding presence and availability information and to effect the dissemination of presence and availability to said subscribers (Tang, page 222, R. col. contact toolbar).

The system of tang does not clearly teach of "Storage system configured to store integrated schedule element and having storage system information based on said received schedule information". However, it is well known in the art at the time the invention was made to store the contact list information on a storage place in order for the users or subscribers can find the contact information from there and be able to make contact when the contact person is available. Therefore, it would have been obvious for a person ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to store the information on a storage medium in order to be able to retrieve the information.

Additionally, the system of Tang does not clearly teaches of "registration services where a subscriber registers to receive notifications regarding presence and availability information". However, registry system in which the users are registered to receive information regarding presence and availability of other users is well known in the art as it is evidenced by Manabe (Manabe, col. 1, lines 26-38, col. 2, lines 16-26, and col. 6, lines 51-62), for the reason to be able to notify and receive the availability information in an IM system. Therefore, it would have been obvious for a person ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the

registry method of Manabe for notifying and receiving notification into the Awarenex system of

Tang, because this makes the system of Tang more versatile and efficient.

As to claim 2, Tang teaches of IM on page 222, L. column.

As to claim 3, the system of Tang teach of the human interface through which user inputs

schedule information in Figure 1, and Figure 2.

As to claim 4, the system of Tang teach of schedule publication element is adapted to

obtain schedule information from a calendar service (page 222, R. col. last paragraph, starting

with "In the Contact Toolbar...".

As to claims 5-6, the system of Tang teach of schedule management element

communicating with said schedule distribution element using a push/pull interface whereby

information retrieved from said storage system is automatically sent to said schedule distribution

element (Tang, page 222, R. col. contact toolbar, and last paragraph to page 223 L. col. first

partial paragraph, access to on line director card).

As to claim 7, the system of Tang teach of calendar of the user, which is open mode and make

the entire schedule available (Tang, page 224, L. col. under Preliminary Use Experience With a

Working Prototype, second paragraph).

As to claim 8, the system of Tang teach of updating user's schedule on page 222, L. col.

last paragraph (under contact list third element, the user is engaged in any computer-media

communication activities (shown by activity indicator).

As to claim 9, Tang teach of said schedule distribution element controls the dissemination

of presence and availability information in a sliding-window mode whereby a available to

subscribers predefined portion of a user's schedule is made (page 222, R. col. Fig.2).

As to claims 10-11, Tang teach of said predefined portion is defined by a sliding window

measured from the present time until a predetermined period of time thereafter (Tang, page 225,

L. col. last paragraph "current or next occurring appointment scheduled in his on-line calendar).

As to claims 12-14, Tang teach of said schedule distribution element is configured to

send notification to subscribers of schedule change information when said sliding window

encounters status changes in the user's schedule (Tang Fig. 7, awareness information on all

devices in each local).

As to claim 15, Tang teach of said schedule subscribing element communicates with said

schedule distribution element to negotiate whether to accept a subscription request (page 223, L.

col. the paragraph before the last partial paragraph, starting with "When a user...").

As to claim 16, Tang teach of said schedule distribution element controls whether to
accept a subscription request (ignore the IM request, page 223, L. col. the paragraph before the
last partial paragraph).

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As to claim 17, Tang teach of said subscription request identifies preferences associated
with a given subscriber that mediate how information is disseminated to that subscriber (page
222, R. col. last paragraph).

As to claim 18, Tang teach of said preferences are stored in said data store identifying
those subscribers who have registered to received notifications (the relevant communication
resource, page 222, R. col. last paragraph).

As to claim 19, Tang teach of said schedule distribution element is configured to
selectively accept a subscription request even if the identified preferences are not met (page 223,
L. col. first partial paragraph).

As to claim 20, Tang teach of said elements are interactive with one another via network
communication (the environment of Tang is a network communication, page 224, R. col. The
User Interface Design).

As to claim 21, Tang teach of at least some of said elements are interactive with one
another via programming interfaces (page 222, R. col. last paragraph).

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure

5.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Majid A. Banankhah** whose telephone number is (571) **272-3770**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Friday, 7:00 AM – 3:30 PM.

    If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Meng-Ai An** can be reached on (571) 272-3756.

    Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the **TC2100 Group** receptionist: 571-272-2100.

    Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free).

Majid Banankhah

5/26/05

MAJID BANANKHAH
PRIMARY EXAMINER